

The Daily Democrat.

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LOCAL INDIAN LORE OF THE WASHITA

General Custer and His Celebrated 7th Cavalry Wiped Out Black Kettle's Band of Cheyennes and Arapahoes

A few years after the Civil War, the various bands of Prairie Indians did their hellish work in murdering defenseless settlers in Kansas and Nebraska, and troops sent against them were usually too slow to overtake these roving bands of marauders. Finally, the complaints of murdered settlers, captured women, and vast amounts of property destroyed in wagon trains became too loud even for the Washington politicians, and something had to be done. There was one man in the service who was surely to be depended upon to do things, that was General Sheridan. And he in his turn picked upon Custer, the rough rider of the Shenandoah Valley. The 7th cavalry was ordered from Fort Riley to take up the trail of the Indians; but even this fine body of men, composed of seasoned veterans of the Civil War, was rarely able to get within shooting distance of the wily foe. However, according to Sheridan's tactics, the Indians were allowed no rest, neither night nor day, and they retreated towards the fastnesses of the Wichita mountains. Immediately upon their arrival in camp on the Washita, about 18 miles above Anadarko, a frightful blizzard set in, the worst known for years, covering the ground with two feet of snow. This from an Indian standpoint, made all traveling and campaigning impossible, and the red warriors deemed themselves entirely secure, being separated from their relentless pursuers by forty miles of snowy waste. Tepees were put up and the braves enjoyed a season of visiting and sleeping.

Not so, Custer. He recognized his opportunity. Eight companies of the 7th cavalry, accompanied by the regimental band, started from Fort Supply early in February, 1868, plodding through the deep snow, and carrying scanty rations of forage and provisions. The party was led by trusty guides, who picked their way by the distant mountain tops of the Wichitas. About midnight, the command arrived within three miles of the Indian camp, and there it halted. The troopers standing at the heads of their horses and trying to keep from freezing by stamping in the deep snow, fires being prohibited. About five in the morning, the command started towards the Indian camp. After making some two miles and crossing a sheltered valley, it was thrown into confusion by a rush, which was first supposed to be the Indians, but only turned out to be a vast herd of Indian ponies. These were taken charge of and driven to the rear.

Contrary to Indian custom, the weather being so severe and no enemy expected, these ponies were left without night herders. Just about sunrise the wind had entirely gone down and the sun rose upon a clear sky. Everything was sparkling in crystals of ice and snow. The command was drawn up three or four hundred yards from the Indian camp, which was still resting in the deepest slumber, and true to Custer's spectacular nature the charge was sounded and to the stirring strains of the band

the troopers dashed amongst the tepees, shooting down the naked savages as they left their couches.

The command reformed and charged again and again, shooting at everything living in sight. By this time the savages rallied and put up quite a spirited fight.

The Indian Right's Society, of Philadelphia, afterwards claimed, and charged it as a high crime, that amongst the reported Indian warriors killed were many squaws. This is no doubt true, but inasmuch as the squaws always did their share of the fighting, there seems to have been no great harm done. What Indians were not killed were put to flight, and a little later on they were joined by another band camped a little lower down in the underbrush. The united band then drew up in battle array, showing fight again, outnumbering the soldiers three to one. But true to his usual tactics, Custer made another charge to the strains of martial music, and the dusky foe, thinking discretion the better part of valor, scattered to the four winds.

Some hundred and fifty dead Indians were left in the blood-soaked snow. The rest of them were rounded up and returned to their reservation. In the camp were found eight white women as prisoners. Three of these had been butchered by the squaws, and five were rescued. These prisoners were found in a dreadful state, having suffered nameless indignities.

This was the last fight to amount to anything in this section, and it taught the Indians a wholesome and much needed lesson.

By an old soldier.

"The Village Vagabond"

The scenery for Robert Sherman's new production, "The Village Vagabond"? is said to be very beautiful, and the people will be given an opportunity to judge for themselves as the production complete will be so seen at Opera House. Prices for the engagement here will be only 50 35 and 25 cents.

School Land for Sale Or Trade

Quarter section six miles from town of 8,000 people. 130 acres in cultivation 140 tillable two room house; granary, chicken house, six acres good bearing orchard, living water in small creek, several good springs, well of finest soft water, railroad with flag station and shipping depot at one corner of farm; 30 acres rich valley land; remainder rolling upland; good for corn, wheat or cotton; will trade for city property. Price \$1,150,000.

5 6t d w BALDWIN & GIBBS.

Don't fail to meet "The Village Vagabond" at the Opera House. It will only cost you 50c 35c and 25c.

Mrs. D. H. Heevner, of Oklahoma City, who has been visiting friends in the city and attended the Dinkler-Coggins wedding returned home this morning.

We hinted in Tuesday's issue that we had retained a rhymester on our staff; and it will be perceived that he has busted loose. We think he could have chosen a more happy subject to work himself into a poetic(?) frenzy about, and we purpose to muzzle him in case that our readers take his verses ill.

ON THE COAL FAMINE

Here we sing a little ditty,
Sad and low, soft and slow,
Of a cold and darkened city
That we know.
For our bosom swells with pity,
And we just cannot be witty;
In-stead, we find ourselves real fitty
In the snow.

In the north behold a blizzard
Roaring high, mounting high.
It strikes a chill into your gizzard
And you fly
To your coal bin without coal.
And you wish with all your soul
You could crawl into a hole
And there lie.

So you hie you to a dealer,
You must buy,—one must buy;
And wave a ten-spot as a feeler
(with a sigh)
The dealer tells you not today:
He has coal ordered,—on the way,
On a siding up at Verden, two weeks out
of Chickasha,—
Our way-bills lie.

Meanwhile, 't is growing colder
Every minute, every hour,
Makes you cower
In your home without a fire
Till you almost could desire
To find heat on funeral pyre,
Had you the power.

Without any inclination throw bouquets at ourself we venture to call your attention to the Weekly issue yesterday. It is not nearly so good as we wish to make our future numbers, and we have no cause to feel ashamed of this number. Keep your eye on the Weekly, you will find it the best investment for your dollar in the whole city of Anadarko.

The A. T. & S. F. railway is arranging to let loose some \$98,000,000 in stock and bonds, and the legislature of the state of Kansas is moved to ask the purpose for increasing the bonded indebtedness of the road from \$60,000 to \$99,000 per mile. The legislature takes the position that if the money is to be used in betterments there is no objection

to allowing the issue of the securities but if any water is to go into the proposition then Kansas is opposed to the scheme. It is more than probable that we shall find governmental supervision a failure, because of railroad-owned senators and legislature. But those of us who are young men will live to see the government operating and owning the railroads of the United States and Mr. Bryan's position justified. Government ownership is a failure only in that it breeds no Harrimans and Hills, and vast increases of inflated credit that must be sweated out of a people already feeling the pinch of the changing conditions of American living.

The show tonight is going to be fine, don't stand back because it is going to a little cool.

ADDITION TO Anadarko For Sale.

On February 13, 1907, I will offer for sale to the highest bidder, through the United States Indian Agent, at Anadarko, Okla.,

The E½ of NE¼, Sec. 21, Twp 7, N, Range 10, N.
Bids to be opened at the Agency at 2:00 P. M.

This land adjoins the townsite of Anadarko on the south; an ideal addition to the townsite for residence lots.

Sold Under Special Act of Congress

The only land adjoining the town of Anadarko available for townsite purposes. A proposition worth investigating. For information call on or Address, J. P. BLACKMON, U. S. Indian Agt., Anadarko, Okla., or

OTTO WELLS, Allottee,
Jan. 24-4. Anadarko, Okla

RAILROAD REDUCES RATES ON COAL

Runaway

This morning the delivery team of the Hammett & Ayers grocery store, got loose from the delivery boy at the store and ran as far as Guy Gillette's house, where Mr. Gillette caught them. Nothing was broken and no one was injured.

Freight Train Wrecked

Yesterday afternoon freight train, No. 174, went in the ditch between Gotscho and the Komalky on the Mangum branch, causing the east bound train to be one hour and forty minutes late. Fortunately no one was hurt.

Callahan Chosen

E. E. Callahan, of Weatherford, has been chosen Associational Missionary for Caddo county by the Territorial Baptist Association. His duty is to hold services in churches that have no ministers, and to organize churches throughout the county.

Adding New Machinery

G. Kunkel and Sons, proprietors of the Anadarko Flour and Milling company, at this place are adding new machinery to their already well equipped mill. They are now putting in a new corn sheller, storing bins, corn dumps and a new elevator and expect to add more in a few weeks.

Funeral Services

The funeral services of Evelyn, the little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Hurley, were held this afternoon at 2 o'clock at the residence, after which the body was interred in the city cemetery. The Redmen and Eagle Lodges both of which Mr. Hurley is a member, had charge of the body and a large number of friends followed the remains to their last resting place.

Mrs. Kunkle Entertains

Yesterday evening Mrs. E. A. Kunkle entertained the ladies of the Missionary Society of the Presbyterian church, at her beautiful home on East Broadway in the honor of Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Cunningham, returned missionaries from Africa. Mr. and Mrs. Cunningham gave some very interesting talks about the missionary conditions in Africa, and also about their experience. They also sang songs in the French-Congo dialect and a most interesting and useful evening was spent, after which refreshments of coffee and wafers were served.

Mrs. Myrtle Hodges, of Grace mont, is in the city this week taking the teachers examination.

Miss Mae Oglesby, of Eakly, and Miss Pearl Scribbins, of Ft. Cobb, are the guests of Miss Maude E. Widaman, for a few days.

Miss Lillie Miles, of Birmingham, Alabama, arrived in the city this morning. She was summoned here by the death of her niece, Evelyn, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Hurley.

WANTED—At once, responsible representatives, business getters,—in every county in Texas, Oklahoma and Indian territory, by popular daily newspaper. Splendid proposition, good pay, permanent income to steady, competent workers. Fortune knocking at your door. The chance of a life-time for real live ones. Others need not apply. 44t P. O. Box 557
FT. WORTH, TEX

Rock Island Makes Fifteen Cent Cut, Mines to Oklahoma City, Eighty Cents to Mangum, Anadarko Too?

Guthrie, Okla., Jan. 24.—Attorney General Cromwell tonight received from the Rock Island railroad company a new rate sheet change reducing freight rates on coal from the Hartford and other Arkansas mines, the the Wilburton and other McAlister district mines and the Henrietta group of mines in Indian Territory to Oklahoma points. The average reduction is 36.4 cents per ton, or an average of \$14.50 per car on 40-ton cars. It runs from a 15 cent reduction for Guthrie, Oklahoma City and several other points to 80 cents at Mangum, the farthest point west affected.

The new rate becomes effective in 30 days, but Judge Cromwell will request its immediate enforcement.

A similar rate, it is said, is being prepared by the St. Louis and San Francisco Railway Company.

There is no indication in the above dispatch that Anadarko will be favored in the reduction. However, we hope our people will get some relief.

Address on Africa

Rev. J. S. Cunningham who has been in our midst the past month, and who has been making a tour of the Presbytery in behalf of Foreign Missions, will soon return to his work in Africa. He has everywhere been enthusiastically received and has been favored with large audiences. The El Reno press has this to say of him: "Mr. Cunningham is a speaker of much more than ordinary ability and his address was listened to with the closest attention. At the Young People's meeting in the afternoon, he spoke again and exhibited a large number of curious articles from the Dark Continent explaining their purpose and use. The meeting was largely attended, overflowing into the Sunday School room. All who were so fortunate as to hear Mr. Cunningham were highly entertained." Mr. Cunningham will lecture to the people of Anadarko Sabbath morning and afternoon in the Presbyterian church and Sabbath night in the Methodist church.

At the afternoon meeting he will exhibit a number of African curios to illustrate his lecture.

The public are cordially invited to any and all of these services.

Teachers Examination

The teachers examination now in progress at the Court House is progressing nicely. Most of the teachers are about through and have made good standing in their studies.

The following are the names of the teachers in attendance:

Garnet Diver, Lova Laird, C. Maud Bryan, Nelly Murphy, Allie B. Stewart, Annie A. Robinson, Mollie Malone, Blanche Seely, J. M. Cochran, J. Harrison, Myrtle Ervin, Bueah Coleman, F. M. Miller, Grace Tennyson, Pearl Scribbins, T. B. Abbott, Myrtle Wilson, Grace Cosley, Carrie Young, L. E. Davis, Russell Reece, Myrtle Hodge, Grace Chandler, Pearl Hughes, May Oglesby, L. A. Fuller, S. F. Franklin and O. W. Taylor.